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TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE
Opinion
28 May 2014

DUPHASTON 10 mg, film-coated tablet

B/10 (CIP: 34009 321 929 4 6)

Applicant: ABBOTT PRODUCTS SAS

INN	Dydrogesterone
ATC Code (2013)	G03DB01 (progestin)
Reason for the review	Reassessment of the Actual Benefit of all medicines indicated in hormone replacement therapy for the menopause at the request of the Committee, pursuant to Article R-163-21 of the French Social Security Code
Lists concerned	National Health Insurance (French Social Security Code L.162-17) Hospital use (French Public Health Code L.5123-2)
Indication concerned	“Confirmed menopause (artificial cycle in combination with an oestrogen)”

01 ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY INFORMATION

Marketing Authorisation	06 August 1979 (national procedure)
Prescribing and dispensing conditions	List I

02 TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS

According to the assessment attached to this opinion, the Committee found that:

02.1 ACTUAL BENEFIT

Confirmed menopause (artificial cycle in combination with an oestrogen).

- ▮ Endometrial hyperplasia increases the risk of endometrial cancer.
- ▮ This proprietary medicinal product provides preventive treatment.
- ▮ The efficacy/adverse effects ratio is high.
- ▮ Combination of progestin treatment with oestrogen treatment is recommended in non-hysterectomised women to avert the risk of endometrial hyperplasia that is consequent upon oestrogen treatment on its own. There are treatment alternatives: other progestin treatments.
- ▮ This medicinal product is a first-line therapy.

- ▮ Public health benefit:

Progestins are only indicated in the hormonal treatment of the menopause in non-hysterectomised women to avert the risk of endometrial hyperplasia that is consequent upon oestrogen treatment on its own.

Thus, in combination with oestrogen treatment, they have the same impact on public health in each of the two indications for hormonal treatment of the menopause as proprietary medicinal products that combine an oestrogen and a progestin.

The benefit in the treatment of the symptoms of oestrogen deficiency is low and there is no benefit in the prevention of postmenopausal osteoporosis.

Consequently, the Committee considers that the actual benefit of the proprietary medicinal product DUPHASTON remains substantial in the indication “Confirmed menopause (artificial cycle in combination with an oestrogen)” in non-hysterectomised postmenopausal women and within the limits defined for the use of the oestrogen treatment with which it is combined when the proprietary medicinal products are used in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee.

03 TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends:

- Carefully weighing the benefit of hormone therapy against the symptoms and their impact on the patient's quality of life.
- Prescribing these treatments in accordance with their contraindications, in particular concerning the risk of thromboembolism and breast cancer.

These treatments should be prescribed when the climacteric disorders are described by the patient as troublesome enough to impair their quality of life, at the lowest effective dose, for the shortest duration possible as per the AFSSAPS's guidelines (see the appendix), in particular:

- before initiating or reinstituting HRT, a complete clinical and gynaecological examination (including an analysis of the family history) should be performed. A regular breast examination should be performed as per the current recommendations (palpation, mammography, ultrasound, etc.) and tailored to individual cases.
- at the start of treatment, patients must be given all relevant information enabling an appropriate and informed prescription. Thus, patients must be informed of the risks inherent to the treatment. In addition, the treatment should be re-assessed regularly, at least once a year, taking into account changes in the benefit/risk ratio. The treatment may be temporarily suspended during this reassessment in order to verify the persistence of the climacteric syndrome and its severity.

The Committee recommends continued inclusion on the list of medicines refundable by National Health Insurance and on the list of medicines approved for hospital use in the indications in the Marketing Authorisation and as recommended by the Committee.

► **Proposed reimbursement rate: 65%**